

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** November 10, 2005

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane)

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 0.5- 0.65" of rain fell over 11/9-11/10 as reported by NOAA

| Areas of Inspection                | Observation   | Recommended Action  |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ROW is accessible from Gallows Hill Road by an existing trail path with a swing gate, an approved access path in from the east of the ROW, and the access road previously used for the Archers Lane substation. 11/10/05</li> <li>- The ROW is less muddy but remain aware of any ruts created from tracking. 11/10/05</li> <li>-All low spot/wetland crossings along the ROW have worked very well to filter out sediment from the wetland. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Sediment tracking was not noted at Gallows Hill during this inspection. 11/10/05</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Most roads are in good shape. Consider using mats whenever the soil is not stable enough. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, it will have to be regraded to return to original conditions. 11/10/05</li> <li>- The wetland areas will be restored when all work in this section is completed as this is considered temporary access. See erosion control section for more detail. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Continue to monitor for any issues. 11/10/05</li> </ul> |
| Foundation construction            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Open excavations and drilling operations continue at a number of structure locations along the ROW on both the Gallows Hill and Archers Lane portions. 11/10/05</li> <li>-Several poles were in place adjacent to the foundation in preparation for installation. A pole structure was also being</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Although there were some stockpiles placed at some sites, most are in upland areas and well contained. 11/10/05</li> <li>-None at this time. 11/10/05</li> </ul>   |

| Areas of Inspection  | Observation  | Recommended Action   |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>offloaded to the ROW during the inspection. 11/10/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Drilling operations were underway in preparation for a structure foundation adjacent to Archers Lane. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Concrete foundations also continue to be constructed in several locations. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Installation of grounding wire was also noted at one location. 11/10/05</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time. 11/10/05</li> <li>- None at this time. 11/10/05</li> <li>- None at this time. 11/10/05</li> </ul>  |
| <p>Erosion and Sediment Controls<br/>(includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)</p> <p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Silt fence is still mostly in place along the low wetland spots on the access path. Continue to check status of silt fence along the crossings. 11/10/05</li> <li>- The spot near Archers Lane is working well and clear standing water was noted in the adjacent wetlands. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Further sedimentation was not noted in the wetland near Gallows Hill and haybales were still in place. 11/2-11/10/05</li> <li>- Silt fence was in place around several stockpiles on the ROW. Almost all are in upland locations. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Two separate tarp/basins were noted on the ROW which were used either for concrete washouts or dewatering the foundations. 11/2-11/10/05</li> <li>- Conditions had dried out at the transition station/ROW edge where clearing had occurred for the new structure. 11/10/05</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The silt fence has done a very good job of keeping turbid water out of the wetlands. It should be maintained as needed to continue its use. 11/10/05</li> <li>- None at this time. 11/10/05</li> <li>-Continue to monitor this area but none at this time. 11/2-11/10/05</li> <li>- Silt fence could be extended along at one of the upland piles if sedimentation issues are noted. 11/10/05</li> <li>- Continue to use these areas as needed and maintain them. 11/10/05</li> <li>-Extend erosion control in this location if it becomes necessary. 11/10/05</li> </ul> |
| Inland Wetland and   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The D&amp;M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric at</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time, the crossings have been used</li> </ul>  |

| Areas of Inspection  | Observation   | Recommended Action   |
|--|---|--|
| Watercourse encroachment and mitigation                                    | <p>the first wetland crossing is still working very well but continue to toe in fence as necessary. 11/2/05</p> <p>-The wetlands at the Archers Lane low spot/crossing are well protected and clear standing water was noted here. 11/10/05</p>   | <p>consistently. As the access is considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 11/10/05</p> <p>- None at this time. 11/10/05</p>            |
| State species of concern, threatened and endangered species                | <p>- The overhead portions have been identified as having potential habitat for several state listed species, including several species of turtles and plants. This particular portion of overhead work includes the turtle habitat area. 9/15-11/10/05</p> <p>-The Eastern box turtle has not been observed since the first sighting and are likely in the process of hibernating. 11/10/05.</p>                   | <p>-Crews have been doing daily sweeps for any turtles in the work areas and noting the results of their efforts on daily construction reports. 11/10/05</p>   |
| Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted) | <p>-The ROW had been mowed in this section in order to allow for truck access and foundation construction. Vegetation that did not need to be removed was left in place on either side of the access path 9/15-11/10/05</p> <p>- Clearing at the Archers Lane/ROW edge was done by CL&amp;P for the recently approved access road to a new structure to be constructed just off the station yard. 11/2-11/10/05</p> | <p>-None at this time. In general limit clearing to those areas necessary. 11/10/05</p> <p>- Extend erosion controls here if necessary. 11/10/05</p>   |
| Dewatering   | <p>- Active dewatering was not noted at the time of the inspection. Two tarp basins were placed within the ROW for turbid dewatering from the foundation holes or concrete washouts. 11/2-11/10/05</p>  | <p>- No sediment issues were noted in the wetland at this time. 11/10/05</p> <p>- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas and if it will not reach any resource areas. 11/10/05</p> |
|  | -No blasting has been   | -None at this time. 11/10/05   |

| Areas of Inspection         | Observation   | Recommended Action  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Blasting                    | necessary at this time except in the adjacent Archers Lane transition station. 11/10/05   |   |
| Spills and Material Storage | <p>-A small hydraulic leak from a boom truck (approx 1 qt) was reported on 11/9/05 on the ROW on the Archers Lane side. The spill was contained and the affected soil bagged and disposed of. 11/10/05</p> <p>- No further spills were noted at this inspection and the issue was handled appropriately. 11/10/05</p> | <p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site</p> <p>- Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst case scenarios.</p> <p>- Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</p> <p>- Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling. Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.</p> |
| Additional Observations     |   |   |

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday November 17, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden for Don Ukers





Overhead ROW: The photo on the left shows drilling activities for the structure that will be placed at the edge of the Archers Lane station. The photo on the right is a view of the ROW from the Archers Lane access. 11/10/05



View of the low spot/wetland crossing on the access road in from Archers Lane. Standing water in the adjacent wetlands was clear and erosion controls are in good shape. 11/10/05





Photo on the left shows a foundation with a pole structure placed for future installation. Photo on the right shows the view back towards Archers Lane and the clearing performed here to access the ROW. 11/10/05



View of a pole being off-loaded to the ROW. 11/10/05





View of the second structure in from Gallows Hill Rd. with the foundation in place and the pole ready for future installation. 11/10/05



View of a stockpile noted at a structure. Silt fence could be extended here if any sedimentation issues are noted but the work area is in uplands. 11/10/05